

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PER-01 /014 W
-----124646 070900Z /15
P 061306Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3503

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FOR AMBASSADOR GARTHOFF, EUR/EE, FROM CHARGE

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: US, BU, PDIP
SUBJECT: PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS--SUGGESTED REMARKS

1. FONMIN PROTOCOL SECTION HAS REQUESTED A DATE FROM ZHIVKOV'S OFFICE AT THE STATE COUNCIL FOR THE PRESENTATION OF YOUR CREDENTIALS. WE HAVE STRESSED YOUR DESIRE FOR AN EARLY DATE FOLLOWING YOUR ARRIVAL SEPTEMBER 14, AND WE HOPE SHORTLY TO HAVE THIS ARRANGED.

2. FOLLOWING ARE SUGGESTIONS FOR THE REMARKS WHICH YOU WILL EXCHANGE IN WRITING AT THAT CEREMONY. PLEASE LET US HAVE YOUR REACTION SO THAT WE CAN CONVEY REMARKS TO GOB IN ADVANCE. REMARKS WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO BULGARIAN NEWS MEDIA AND SHOULD GET SOME PLAY IN LOCAL PRESS. WE WILL ALSO MAKE THEM AVAILABLE TO VOA.

3. QUOTE MR. CHAIRMAN:

4. I HAVE THE HONOR AND PLEASURE TO PRESENT THE LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO YOUR EXCELLENCY IN YOUR CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE, ACCREDITING ME AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA. I
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AM ALSO PRESENTING THE LETTER OF RECALL OF MY PREDECESSOR, AMBASSADOR MARTIN F. HERZ.

5. I UNDERTAKE THIS MISSION, MR. CHAIRMAN, WITH HIGH HOPES THAT THE PEACEFUL AND COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES WILL FURTHER IMPROVE. OUR POLITICAL SYSTEMS ARE DIFFERENT. BUT THIS DIFFERENCE SHOULD NOT PREVENT

OUR BUILDING MORE POSITIVE TIES BASED ON MUTUAL BENEFITS.
MY PREDECESSORS HAVE DONE MUCH TO CONSTRUCT A SOLID RELATIONSHIP THAT NOW GIVES PROMISE OF STEADY ONWARD DEVELOPMENT. CLEARLY RELATIONS BETWEEN EAST AND WEST WILL BE BOTH COOPERATIVE AND COMPETITIVE FOR A LONG TIME TO COME. WE WANT THE COMPETITION TO BE PEACEFUL, AND WE WANT THE COOPERATION TO INCREASE. I KNOW OF NO LAW OF NATURE THAT SAYS THAT THE BULGARIAN LION AND THE AMERICAN EAGLE MAY NOT TRAVEL ALONG THE SAME PATH.

6. IT IS IN THIS SPIRIT, MR. CHAIRMAN, THAT I VIEW THE FAVORABLE PROSPECT FOR A FURTHER EXPANSION OF TIES BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA. THIS PAST YEAR HAS SEEN SEVERAL SIGNIFICANT MILESTONES IN OUR RELATIONS. ON JUNE 13, 1977, BULGARIA AND THE UNITED STATES SIGNED A COMPREHENSIVE AGREEMENT ON EXCHANGES AND COOPERATION IN CULTURAL, SCIENTIFIC, EDUCATIONAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL FIELDS. I VIEW THIS AGREEMENT AS A SYMBOL OF OUR IMPROVED RELATIONS, AND AS A PRELUDE TO MORE ACTIVE US-BULGARIAN CONTACTS IN THESE IMPORTANT FIELDS. LAST DECEMBER, WE SIGNED AN AGREEMENT CONCERNING FISHERIES OFF THE COASTS OF THE UNITED STATES. LAND COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURE, SO IMPORTANT TO BOTH OUR COUNTRIES, IS GROWING AND DEEPENING AS EXPERTS ON BOTH SIDES DISCOVER AREAS OF COMMON INTEREST. THESE AGREEMENTS PROVIDE BENEFITS TO BOTH SIDES AND GIVE BOTH SIDES A STAKE IN CONTINUING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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POSITIVE RELATIONSHIP.

7. WE VALUE GREATLY THE COOPERATION THAT BULGARIA AND THE UNITED STATES HAVE ENJOYED IN OUR MUTUAL EFFORTS TO REALIZE THE PROMISES CONTAINED IN THE FINAL ACT OF THE CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE -- A DOCUMENT WHICH HAS ALREADY ADDED A NEW DIMENSION TO EAST-WEST RELATIONS. WE ARE GRATIFIED TO NOTE THAT THERE HAS BEEN SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS ON THE REUNIFICATION OF FAMILIES AND CONTINUE TO ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO YOUR PERSONAL ASSURANCE THAT DIVIDED FAMILY CASES WILL BE SATISFACTORILY RESOLVED.

8. TRADE FORMS A VITAL TWO-WAY LINK IN OUR RELATIONSHIP. AMERICANS OVERWHELMINGLY SUPPORT THE EXPANSION OF TRADE WITH BULGARIA. I AM PLEASED TO NOTE THAT THE TRADE BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES HAS STEADILY INCREASED IN RECENT YEARS AND HAS RISEN MORE THAN 500 PERCENT IN THIS DECADE. I WILL

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STRONGLY SUPPORT EFFORTS TO CONTINUE THIS TREND, BY WORKING TO INCREASE ECONOMIC CONTACTS BETWEEN BULGARIANS AND AMERICANS THROUGH US PARTICIPATION IN BULGARIA'S FAMOUS ANNUAL PLOVDIV INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR; THROUGH THE BULGARIAN/US ECONOMIC COUNCIL, WHICH MET MOST RECENTLY SIX MONTHS AGO; AND THE NEW BULGARIAN COMMERCIAL OFFICE IN SAN FRANCISCO. CLOSER ECONOMIC TIES CAN ONLY DEEPEN OUR OVERALL RELATIONSHIP.

9. PRESIDENT CARTER SENDS ME AS HIS REPRESENTATIVE TO YOU WITH ALL BEST WISHES. WHEN HE WAS GOVERNOR OF GEORGIA IN 1974, HE ALREADY SHOWED PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE OF BULGARIA'S POTENTIAL IN SENDING A TRADE MISSION TO VISIT YOUR COUNTRY. IN NOVEMBER 1976, AS PRESIDENT-ELECT, HE MADE A SPEECH NOTING WITH ADMIRATION THE CONFIDENCE WITH WHICH BULGARIA'S REPRESENTATIVES PROMOTED ITS EXPORTS IN OUR COUNTRY. AND I KNOW THAT IT WAS WITH PARTICULAR PLEASURE THAT HE WELCOMED THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE TO THE WHITE HOUSE LAST JUNE.

10. I LOOK OFRWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN, AND YOUR COLLEAGUES IN CARRYING FORWARD THE WORK THAT PRESIDENT CARTER HAS ENTRUSTED TO ME. WE CAN TAKE SATISFACTION IN THE HEALTHY TREND THAT HAS EMERGED TOWARD A MORE CONSTRUC-TIVE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS. THE CQLENGE NOW WILL BE TO TAKE ADDITIONAL CONCRETE STEPS TO SOLIDIFY
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AND BUILD UPON THE PROGRESS ALREADY ACHIEVED. AMERICANS HAVE ALWAYS REGARDED CHALLENGES AS AN OPPORTUNITY, NOT AN OBSTACLE. IN SEEKING TO FORGE A MOR DURABLE AND CONSTRUC-

TIVE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, WE HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO HELP SHAPE A WORLD COMMUNITY OF GREATER STABILITY, AND TIP THE BALANCE A LITTLE MORE FIRMLY TOWARD WORLD PEACE. UNQUOTE

11. NEW SUBJECT: GREEK AMBASSADOR STEPHANOU, WHO IS HOSTING THIS MONTH'S SESSION OF NATO AMBASSADORS ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, TOLD ME HE HOPES VERY MUCH THAT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO ATTEND EVEN THOUGH YOU WILL HAVE JUST ARRIVED AND WILL NOT YET HAVE PRESENTED CREDENTIALS. MEETING WILL BE AT GREEK EMBASSY AT 11 A.M. FOLLOWED BY LUNCH. THE NATO GROUP -- WHICH IN SOFIA BESIDES US CONSISTS OF AMBASSADORS OF BELGIUM, FRANCE, FRG, GREECE, ITALY, NETHERLANDS, PORTUGAL, TURKEY AND UK -- IS ANXIOUS TO MEET YOU AND THIS WOULD PROVIDE AN IMMEDIATE OPPORTUNITY. IN VIEW

OF CLOSE, FRIENDLY RELATIONS AND RELAXED PROTOCOL AMONG WESTERN AMBASSADORS HERE, I FEEL IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR YOU TO ATTEND, ALTHOUGH I COULD REPRESENT YOU IF YOU PREFER. PLEASE ADVISE.

12. YOUR AIR FREIGHT CONSISTING OF TWO FOOT LOCKERS HAS ARRIVED, AND DOBRINKA HAS UNPACKED AND ARRANGED THE CONTENTS. POUCHED LETTER TO YOU AUGUST 30 COVERING A NUMBER OF MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS. WARM REGARDS. MAGEE

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Message Attributes

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